Generating sets manufactured by BHEL

25. PROF. C LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the four coal fired generating sets in Bongaigaon, manufactured by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited are causing serious trouble;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made into the deficiencies and manufacturing defects in the generators supplied by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited; and

(c) if so, what remedial measures have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The performance of the units at Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station has not been satisfactory.

(b) A number of visits have been made by the Engineers of ASEB, CEA and BHEL to identify the defects in the equipment and other causes resulting in poor performance of Bongaigaon thermal units.

(c) The following major remedial measures have been taken by BHEL:

(i) All mills overhauled.

(ii) Generator of Units I and II rewound and repaired.

(iii) 13th Stage blades of Units I and IV shaved off and those of Unit II are being shaved off.

(iv) Generators of Units III and

(v) All motor defects attended.

Increase in the prices of tyres and tubes

26 SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move on the part of tyre and tube manufacturing companies to increase the prices of tyres and tubes;

(b) if so what, are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to ensure that there is no increase in the prices of tyres and tubes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) According to the information supplied by the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association, the tyre companies have increased the prices of tyres approximately by 7 per cent in July 1987. The reason is stated to be the increase in cost of production by over 7.43 per cent after the last price revision of tyres in May 1986.

(c) At present there is no statutory control on the price and distribution of tyres. The prices are determined by market forces of demand and supply.

Investment in foreign collaboration with Italian firms

27. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 151 proposals of foreign collaboration with Italian firms have been approved during the period 1984—86; if so, the estimated total investment therein;

(b) how many additional collaborations with Italian concerns involving Central/State Government participation have been approved and the estimated investment therein;

(c) how many similar collaborations and of what value have been approved with USA, USSR and UK during the same period; and

(d) out of the collaborations mentioned in parts (a) and (b) above, how many have resulted in cost and